Middlebrook News.

Abraham Venable, a respected colored man, died at the residence of his son near here last week at an advanced age. He formerly belonged to the Hogsheads' near here, and was the body-servant of the late lamented M.W. D. Hogshead for a number of years.

Miss —— Arnold, daughter of Charles Arnold of New Port in this county, met with a very sad and distressing accident last week. She was engaged about the fire at something when her clothing took fire, and she was horribly burned. Her clothing was entirely burned off her with the exception of the waist band of some of her underclothing. Her body was fearfully burned, and at this writing she is in a very precarious condition. The whole family have the sympathy of every one in this sad dispensation of Providence. No hopes are entertained of her recovery. Week before last, M. V. Spitler of this place lost his youngest child by death. It was a boy, aged 2 years. He died of diphtheria and croup. Death seems to mark his youngest child as its victim as this is the second one he has lost in a year or so.

According to his prophecy of 2 years ago, M. F. Fix is again clerking for McCorkle Brothers of this place in the dry goods business. Fix seems to be a good hand.

Business seems to be brightening up some as Christmas draws on apace. We have had the finest fall we have had for many years.

There is a young man in this place who worked the racket for Mahone in the last canvass, and it was understood he should have an appointment. He did his duty faithfully, and, as is customary, he was gone back on shamefully. He promises to make himself felt in another way when another chance presents itself, unless a different face is soon put upon it, and prominent Democrats tell him, he might have expected it of Mahone and his Lieutenants. If he chooses to spread himself at the election for congressman, his influence will be felt at more than one precinct in the county, and the Democratic Party are going to give him every inducement to bust the Republican vote here, which only lacked six votes of being what it was at the Presidential election. Those who did little work got the places with a bait thrown out to some rich folks which won't work worth a cent. It does not always pay to ignominiously slaughter a poor worker in a party because he is poor and has a few enemies who want their friends put in. Time will tell, and old Middlebrook will be heard from, and "don't you forget it." There are, at the highest, only 52 Republican votes here, and the voters on that side did well here through the instrumentality of the aforesaid worker who got his friends to come, because thereby he expected to excel as a worker. The Greenville vote fell from 111 last year to 61 this year, and that town got two appointments. A low-laid scheme caused our Middlebrook friend to be left, while he was the first to apply. The hook that apparently brings in the most suckers is the hook that is greased and laid away for muddy water. If the late election were the last, it would do for the Republican party, but others will come, and there are those who have been basely betrayed and have sworn vengeance. The man in question has been a Republican for 10 years, and has the sense and education to fill the place he applied for. It is prophesied by some that at the next election there will only be enough Republicans to fill the federal offices, and it looks something like it.

The Miller brothers and John Reese are now in Lexington in jail, and the January term of the court is the time set for their trial. They have for counsel three able men—Williams, Glascow, and Pendleton. David Miller is improving every day, but it is thought he will die of his wound, as the wound is exactly like the one given Gen. Garfield. It is generally believed that he was shot by his own crowd in their reckless fusiliade. Every one was firing and no one hardly looking where or who he shot at.

Born unto Mr. and Mrs. Tinsley in this place a 12-pound son, one day last week.

Also to Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker, a son, one day last week.

William Goode of California is here visiting his home. His father, Mr. Samuel Goode, who has been in California for a year or so, has also returned. We welcome them.